

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

53

Action

NEA

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INR
RMR

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Control: 4452

Rec'd: May 6, 1960
11:34 a.m.

FROM: Taiz

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 253, May 5, 3 p.m.

SENT DEPARTMENT 253, REPEATED INFORMATION CAIRO 204, ADEN 203

Imam underwent hernia operation Sukhne May 4. Operation performed by Italian doctor called from Sanaa after two Italian doctors from Taiz advised against operation in Sukhne which excessively hot this time of year and lacking medical facilities.

According doctors Imam remains in relatively good health but currently "not seeing anyone" on business and may be unable attend to normal affairs of State for sometime.

STOLTZFUS

LJ/11

786H. 11/5-560

HBS

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FILE
JUL 5 - 1960

CLASSIFIED FILE

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 949527
By RHE NARA Date 11/07/04

INCOMING AIRGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

42

Action

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INR

RMR

FROM: Amletation TAIZ

TO: Secretary of State

NO: G-134

RPTD INFO: Cairo G-132

NO DISTRIBUTION OUTSIDE DEPARTMENT

Department's G-22 rptd info Cairo G-132

Legation continuing inquire discreetly re subject reference airgram;
has elicited nothing so far.

Date Sent: May 25, 1960

Rec'd:

PAGE 1 OF 1

MAY 30 3 33 PM

STOLTZFUS

786H.11/5-2560 HBS

Copy No(s) 68
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Name W. Stoltzfus Jr. Date 7/5/60

W. Stoltzfus Jr./frg

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0412

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Authority WND 949527
By RH NARA Date 11/07/04

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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54-M

SECRET

Action
NEA

Classification

Control: 5806

Rec'd: June 8, 1960
3:38 p.m.

Info

FROM: Taiz

SS

TO: Secretary of State

G

SP

NO: 285, June 7, 10 a.m.

C

H

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RMR

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 285; REPEATED INFORMATION CAIRO 226, ADEN 215
ROME, LONDON UNNUMBERED.

DEPARTMENT POUCH OTHER ARAB CAPITALS.

LIMIT DISTRIBUTION.

OICA representative Harriz called last evening seeking confirmation reports from home office that Imam Ahmad dead. Harriz slightly disturbed by inability make contact with those who might know and by gathering of notables at home elder statesmen Qadi Muhammad Al-Amri Monday evening June 6, but agreed with Legation officer this not necessarily unusual in view ID celebrations. Harriz basically skeptical view utter dearth such rumors in Taiz.

Fact of rumors discussed with Italian and British Charges and others. Following information emerged: Pirie-Gordon stated he had received and dismissed this news four days earlier by cable via British Ambassador Jordan who summoned by King Husayn and told of report. Italian Charge Guillet stated had received similar inquiry on May 30 or 31 from Rome and to dismissed it. About June 4 had received word from Italian doctor attending Imam Sukhne that all was well and morning June 6 had word from Italian representative Hodeida that Imam had left Sukhne for Hodeida. Wife Swedish pilot Brinet announced evening June 5 husband had flown Imam to Hodeida. Afternoon June 5 during ID call by Legation officer, Mayor Taiz responded to question about His Majesty by saying Imam well and now Hodeida.

/Late

SECRET

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786H.11/6-760

CAV

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Copy Not(s) 57

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Name

Date 8-4-60

0413

DECLASSIFIED

Authority WND 949527

By R/H NARA Date 11/07/04

SECRET

-2- 285, June 7, 10 a.m. from Taiz

Late evening June 6, Taiz populace widely buzzing about presence Imam in Hodeida and morning June 7 it reported Imam attended public ID ceremonies Hodeida. In view foregoing, rumor of Imam's death appears be without foundation.

The fact of rumor of Imam's death adds new dimensions sudden return Nasser representative Abu Zaid reported Legation telegram 283. Harriz (protect source), adding to earlier information, told Legation officer that Abu Zaid summarily called from evening concert in Cairo, "handed two hundred pounds and a ticket and told return immediately to Yemen." Abu Zaid departed Taiz for Sanaa in special plane morning June 6.

MITCHELL

HND-2

Note: POUCHED BY DCT (Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus, Jerusalem, Jidda)

SECRET

0414

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WMD 949527
By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

53

Action
NEA

SECRET

Classification

Control: 7655

Rec'd: July 12, 1960
2:59 p.m.

Info

FROM: Aden

SS

TO: Secretary of State

G

NO: 12, July 12, 6 p.m.

SP

C

H

INR

EUR

RMR

SENT DEPARTMENT 12; REPEATED INFORMATION TAIZ 8.

DEPARTMENT PASS LONDON 5.

Made initial call on Governor today. Conversation concerned mostly with his Yemen visit which he considered generally successful. Imam who set tone of whole visit sent friendly message of greeting. Governor received warm reception - from "high level" escort party headed by Alshami. Governor acknowledged however he "half expected" see Imam and his unscheduled visit Hodeida afforded Imam who also in Hodeida opportunity receive Governor if Imam so desired. Governor charged off Imams unwillingness to receive him as inexplicable caprice. Governor said Italian Doctors believe Imam "has as good chance of living as any 68 year old man." But Governor described Imam as "unbalanced" and blamed his increasingly capricious ways and worsening temper for all the difficulties of "moderate reasonable" Yemen officials.

No progress either on establishment joint border commission Nor airways agreement. Crown Prince whom Governor saw in Sana'a completely uninformed these matters but promised try to expedite them.

Nevertheless Governor said he satisfied with visit and pleased with present state Aden-Yemen relations although under no illusions about long term prospect. He said there no way predicting course events Yemen since all depends on decisions one unpredictable man.

Luce leaving Aden August 15. Promised full review situation here before departure.

MRJ/9

SECRET

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Copy No(s) 83

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Date 9-19-60

Name

CAMPBELL

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CLASSIFIED FILE

786H.11/7-1260 HBS

0415

DECLASSIFIED

Authority WND 949527

By R/H NARA Date 11/07/04

INCOMING AIRGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

24

Action
NEA

Info

P

NSA

IRC

CIA

OSD

ARMY

NAVY

AIR

RMK

FROM: AmLegation, TAIZ

TO: Secretary of State

NO: G - 2

RPTD INFO: Cairo G-2 Aden G-2

REF: Legation's G-147 dated 6 - 15 - 60

Date Sent: July 13, 1960
Rec'd:

JUL 20 11 23 AM '60

Imam now spending some days Taif, seaside town about 25 miles south Hodeida. Reliably reported reason is further contact with Zaranig tribes and to show Imam has "40 thousand rifles" to protect him against potential internal uprising, presumably from disaffected northern tribes.

Legation so far has no information re rumor Imam has recently ordered Crown Prince make new military move against dissident elements northern tribes.

STOLTZFUS

WASoltzfusJr:jss

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786H.11/7-1360 HBS

0416

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WND 949527
By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

34
Action
NEA

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Classification

Control: 5462

Rec'd: June 8, 1960
10:26 a.m.

pull
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OCB
IRC
CIA
OSD
ARMY
NAVY
AIR
RMR

FROM: Cairo

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 3595, June 7, 3 p.m.

SENT DEPARTMENT 3594 REPEATED INFORMATION ADEN 40, TAIZ 45.

Reports that Imam Yemen dead and Badr suppressing news received here datelined Aden June 2 UPI. American observer who arrived Cairo June 6 states he informed at airport prior departure Taiz that Imam married 18 year old girl Hodeida June 3 or 4. Source was Italian doctor who recently performed hernia operation on Imam. Apparently story of death not circulated Yemen.

REINHARDT

BB:MF/2

786H.11/6-760 HBS

File
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11

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0417

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Authority *WMD 949527*
By *RL* NARA Date *11-07-04*

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

56-52
Action
NEA

SECRET

Classification

Control: 2676

Rec'd: September 6, 1960
6:33 a.m.Info FROM: Taiz
SS TO: Secretary of State
G
EUR NO: 76, September 4, 8 a.m.
INR

RMR

SENT DEPARTMENT 76, REPEATED INFORMATION CAIRO 53, ADEN 44.

PROTECT SOURCE

Argentinian Doctor Cavallo of Taiz Hospital just returned from seeing Imam Hodeida informed Charge September 3 as follows:

Cavallo called in by Imam who complaining of urinating excessive number of times per day. Urinalysis has revealed nothing but Cavallo virtually certain Imam has prostate hypertrophy and requires early operation. His efforts see Imam confidentially unsuccessful and he believes Imam either unaware his condition or ignoring it. Operation on Imam in Yemen difficult since medical facilities limited, Imam corpulent and recently had hernia operation (LEGTEL 253 of May 5). Cavallo believes if operation not conducted Imam could contract uremia or cancer and be dead within year. States has informed West German Charge but not Italian doctors with whom he on bad terms.

Comment: Italians still maintain Imam in good health. Plan inform British and Italian colleagues on confidential basis. Appears Imam would be well advised take physical checkup soonest.

STOLTZFUS

BB:ALB/1

Name W/S
Date 11-1-60Copy No(s) 80

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786H.11/9-460

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CLASSIFIED

NOV 10 1960

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Authority WMD 949527By RA NARA Date 11/07/04

W I T H D R A W A L N O T I C E

RG: 059

ENTRY: CDF60-63

TAB #: 10

1 / 1 / C /

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BOX: 2082

ACCESS RESTRICTED

The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

Folder Title: 786H.11/9-1460

Document Date: 14/09/60

Document Ser#: _____

Airgram No: G-32

From: Amlegation, TAIZ

To: State

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X Security-Classified Information
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NND: 949570

WITHDRAWN: 02/28/95 by: rmh

FOIA RETRIEVAL #: 949570 02082 00010

0 4 1 9

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 949527
By RLH NARA Date 11-07-04

INCOMING AIRGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

34

Action
NEA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Classification

B 0 1 8 8 6
PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

Date Sent: Sept. 14, 1960
Rec'd:

Info FROM: American Legation, TAIZ

SS TO: Secretary of State

G NO: G-31

INR

RMR

RPTD INFO: Cairo G-31, Aden G-29

SEP 20 3 55 PM '60

Reports indicate Imam now making arrangements return to Sukhne soon from Hodeida where he has been residing most of summer. Imam rumored in Hodeida to be not feeling well, and this confirmed to me September 11 by Abu Talib of Fonoff.

STOLTZFUS

786H.11/9-1460 HBS

WASoltzfusJr:jss

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Authority WND 949527
By RH NARA Date 11/07/04

INCOMING AIRGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

48
Action
NEA

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

B 0 2 7 3 3
PAGE 1 OF 1

Date Sent: September 21, 1960
Rec'd:

Info FROM: American Legation, TAIZ
SS TO: Secretary of State
G NO: G-40
INR
RMR

SEP 27 1 13 PM '60

RPTD INFO: Cairo G-40, Aden G-38

REF: Legation's G-31, rptd info Cairo G-31, Aden G-29

Imam has returned Hodeida after one day stay Sukhne. Abu Talib told Charge Sept 19 neither he "nor even Sayyaghi" (Governor of Taiz) has heard from Imam in last ten days and indicated Imam still not feeling well.

STOLTZFUS

786H.11/9-2160

HBS

CLASSIFIED FILE

vastoltzfusjr:jss

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0421

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Authority WND 949527
By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

INCOMING AIRGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

45
Action

NEA

Info

P

USIA

INR

CIA

NSA

OSD

ARMY

NAVY

AIR

RMK

FROM: American Legation, TAIZ

TO: Secretary of State

NO: G-46

RPTD INFO: Cairo G-46, Aden G-44

Date Sent: October 5, 1960
Rec'd:

B 0 1 0 6 5
PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGE

OCT 10 5 46 PM '60

According recent rumors Prince Abd al-Rahman, youngest brother of Imam, may take up residence in Taiz. Local talk is construction will begin soon on house for Prince in modern (eastern) section of Taiz. Knowledgeable Yemenis speculate Prince Abd al-Rahman is interested in resuming his former position as Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs.

COMMENT: Prince Abd al-Rahman and Abu Talib are not on best of terms. Prince's return could well result in Abu Talib's resignation as head of Yemeni Fonoff. Abu Talib would, however, be unable leave Fonoff without approval of Imam who is aware of Abd al-Rahman - Abu Talib differences.

STOLTZFUS

786H.11/10-560 HBS

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Authority WND 949527

By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

W I T H D R A W A L N O T I C E

RG: 059
ENTRY: CDF60-63

TAB #: 11
1 / 1 / C /

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BOX: 2082

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Folder Title: 786H.11/10-560
Document Date: 05/10/60
Document Ser#: _____

Airgram No: G-49

From: Amlegation, TAIZ

To: State

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NND: 949570

WITHDRAWN: 02/28/95 by: rmh

FOIA RETRIEVAL #: 949570 02082 00011

0423

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WND 949527
By RLH NARA Date 11-07-04

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State ^{H.B. Rms}

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Control: 9442

Rec'd: OCTOBER 18, 1960
9:24 AM

NEA

FROM: TAIZ

Info

TO: Secretary of State

SS

G

PR

P

NO: 125, OCTOBER 18, 10 AM

RMR

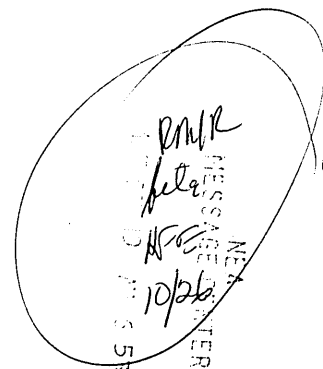
SENT DEPARTMENT 125, REPEATED INFORMATION CAIRO 64.

SUGGEST PRESIDENT OR SECRETARY WIRE CONGRATULATIONS TO IMAM
ON ANNIVERSARY ASCENSION TO THRONE OCTOBER 24.

STOLTZFUS

MTD

786H.11/10-1860 HBS



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0424

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Authority WND 949527
By RL NARA Date 11-07-04

**OUTGOING
AIRGRAM**

Department of State

B 0 0 6 8 5

Origin
Info

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Classification

NO.

SENT TO: AmLegation TAIZ G-16

RPTD INFO: AmEmbassy CAIRO G-73

Legtel 125.

FYI. Following message was sent by the President to Imam Ahmad, October 22:

"His Majesty
Imam Ahmad ibn Yahya al Hamid Ad-Din,
King of Yemen,
Hudaïda.

On this anniversary of Accession Day, I am happy to extend the felicitations and sincere good wishes of the people of the United States, as well as my own personal regard, to Your Majesty and to the people of Yemen.

Dwight D. Eisenhower"

Imam Ahmad addressed a telegram of congratulations to President Eisenhower on the occasion of the President's recent birthday. The following reply was sent on October 22:

"His Majesty
Imam Ahmad ibn Yahya Hamid al-Din,
King of Yemen,
Hodeidah.

I am most grateful for your kind message of congratulations on my birthday anniversary. Your thoughtfulness and good wishes are sincerely appreciated.

Dwight D. Eisenhower"

END FYI.

CONFIDENTIAL

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Classification

NEA:NE:RWS:tokey:tah:10/25/60.

Airgram transmission and classification approved by:

NE - Armin H. Meyer

U/FR - Mr. Conger (subst.)

S/S - Mr. Swank

134

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OCT 27 1960 P.M.

OCT 27 4 42

Page 1 of 1 Page

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786H.11/10-1860

CLASSIFIED FILE

LWS

10-1860

0425

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WND 949527
By R/H NARA Date 11/07/04

No reply necessary
(Polly Yates to jmr, 11/4/60)

NEA - MR. MAK INFORMED

11/4/60 RLS

~~12004~~

13005

RM/R

FILE

①

King Imam Ahmed

NOV 3 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR BRIG. GEN. A. J. GOODPASTER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Telegram from the King of Yemen

Your memorandum of October 29 enclosed for translation and recommendation as to appropriate handling a telegram in Arabic from the King of Yemen.

I enclose the telegram and an official translation. Since the telegram is merely an acknowledgment of the President's message to the King, prepared in the Department, on the occasion of the anniversary of the King's accession, the Department does not recommend a reply.

WJS

Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.
Director
Executive Secretariat

Enclosures:

1. Telegram from the King of Yemen. 58
2. Official translation.

Clearances: DEPT. OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

S/S-RO:RLPerkins:brd 11/2/60

cc: NEA - Mr. Mak (w/att)
U/PR - Mr. Conger (w/att)

449787

S/S-RO

NOV 3 1960

A true copy of signed original

RM/R
Anal. 20
Rev.
Cat.

③

7864.11/10-2960

0426

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WND 949527
By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF LANGUAGE SERVICES

(TRANSLATION)

LS NO.

4743
T-18/R-13
Arabic

[TELEGRAM]

VOAAC2/29 October, VIA MACKAY RADIO

HODEIDA 40 28 19008

FROM: IMAM AHMED, KING OF YEMEN

TO : DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER,
PRESIDENT OF THE USA REPUBLIC,
WASHINGTON.

WE THANK YOUR EXCELLENCY FOR YOUR KIND FELICITATIONS ON THE
OCCASION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF OUR ACCESSION AND SINCE WE APPRECIATE
THIS BEAUTIFUL SENTIMENT OF YOUR EXCELLENCY, WE WISH YOU AND YOUR
FRIENDLY PEOPLE CONTINUOUS SUCCESS AND PROSPERITY.

FW 786 b. 11/10-2960

GPO-918984

0427

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WND 949527
By RL NARA Date 11-07-04

My Wife House
1960 OCT 29

1960 OCT 29 AM 9 38

VOAAC2/29 OCT VIA MACKAY RADIO

HODEIDAH 40 28 19008

ETAT FROM IMAM AHMED KING OF YEMEN TO THE PRESIDENT REPUBLIC
OF USA DWIGHT D EISENHOWER WASHINGTON
NASHKOR FAKHAMATILOM LITAHNIYATKOM ARRAKIKAH BIMONASABAT
EID ALJOLOS ASSAEED WAINA IZ NOKADIR LIFAKHAMATIKOM HAZA
ASHOOR ALHASSAN NATAMANA LIFAKHAMATIKOM WALISHAAB ASSADIK
DAWAM ATTAWFIK WANNAJAH WADOHTOM

FIN 786 Jo. 11 / 10-2960

0428

S/S-mc

October 31, 1960

IS - Mr. Leon

Telegram to President from
Imam of Yemen

Please furnish an official translation of the attached telegram to S/S as soon as possible. I would appreciate your telephoning Mr. Warren Henderson in S/S Message Center when the translation is ready.

Raymond L. Perkins
S/S-RO
Ext. 5261

Att: Cy of tel to Pres
fr King of Yemen.

RLP:brd

FW 786 W. 11/10-2960

1080 OCT 31 PM 5 20

OUT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

0429

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WWD 949527
By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

Rec'd in S/S 10/31/60 9:45 a.m.

#15086

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

ROUTE SLIP

(To Remain With Correspondence)

RO

TO Mr. Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.
Director, Executive Secretariat
Department of State

PROMPT HANDLING IS ESSENTIAL.
WHEN DRAFT REPLY IS REQUESTED
THE BASIC CORRESPONDENCE MUST
BE RETURNED. IF ANY DELAY IN
SUBMISSION OF DRAFT REPLY IS
ENCOUNTERED, PLEASE TELEPHONE
OFFICE OF THE STAFF SECRETARY.

Date October 29, 1960

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

ACTION: Comment _____
Draft reply _____
For direct reply _____
For your information _____
For necessary action _____
For appropriate handling _____
See below _____ X

Remarks: Tel 10/28/60 to the President from the King of Yemen

For translation and recommendation as to appropriate
handling.

OCT - 9 1961

FILED

786 h. 18 / 10-29-60

GPO 16-71204-1

By direction of the President:

FM/R
Anal. 20
Rev.
Cat.

②

449788

A. J. GOODPASTER
Staff Secretary

Sm

0430

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WMD 949527
By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

ROUTE SLIP

(Copy for Retention by Department or Agency)

TO Mr. Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.
Director, Executive Secretariat
Department of State

PROMPT HANDLING IS ESSENTIAL.
WHEN DRAFT REPLY IS REQUESTED
THE BASIC CORRESPONDENCE MUST
BE RETURNED. IF ANY DELAY IN
SUBMISSION OF DRAFT REPLY IS
ENCOUNTERED, PLEASE TELEPHONE
OFFICE OF THE STAFF SECRETARY.

Date October 29, 1960

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

ACTION: Comment _____
Draft reply _____
For direct reply _____
For your information _____
For necessary action _____
For appropriate handling _____
See below X

Remarks: _____

**For translation and recommendation as to appropriate
handling.**

REPLY BOX AT WHITE HOUSE NOV 2 1960

SPD 16-71264-1

By direction of the President:

A. J. GOODPASTER
Staff Secretary
[Signature]

0431

DECLASSIFIED
Authority WNW 949527
By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

Air Pouch

CONFIDENTIAL
(Security Classification)

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

786411/11-1660

FROM : American Legation, TAIZ

18
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

November 16, 1960

REF : Legation's Despatch No. 42, Dated November 2, 1960

London - 1 Jeddah - 1

2 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.	IDY EORS	
	REC'D	IN F O	RM/R-2	INR-7 P.3 M/O P.1 M/O-1 S/S-2
	11-29		CLIO-10	USIA-10 ARMY-4 NAVY-4 NSA-2 OSD-5

SUBJECT: Governor of Taiz Apparently Demoted by Imam

The following press item appeared in the Taiz newspaper al-Saba on November 10:

The Imam, King of Yemen, issued a decree on November 7th assigning al-Sayyid Hamud al-Washali, Chief of the Royal Palace (in Taiz), as his representative in Taiz. Al-Washali has accepted this expression of Royal desire and has begun to perform his assignment capably.

According to Legation sources in Taiz the Imam fired Qadhi Ahmad al-Sayyaghi as Governor of Taiz on the basis of reports he had received that Sayyaghi was handling Government funds improperly. Taiz marketplace rumor has it that Sayyaghi refused to hand over three thousand Riyals to Muhammad Mahmoud, a young favorite of the Imam, while Abu Talib of the Foreign Office told me November 15 that the manager of al-Saba newspaper, Muhammad Abdo al-Sharjahi, a bitter enemy of Sayyaghi, had reported to the Imam that the Governor mishandled government funds. News of the removal of Sayyaghi, whose reputation and prestige have continued to climb in recent months, has been greeted with general disapproval in Taiz. Al-Washali assumes once again the post he held last year prior to Sayyaghi's appointment in September.

Sayyaghi is now in Ibb. He apparently has not so far been divested of his rather meaningless additional job as "Minister of the Interior".

COMMENT: With this flimsiest of excuses the Imam has removed from office an active and powerful personality whose influence in southern Yemen was rising in a manner undoubtedly alarming to him and to the Crown Prince as well. Moreover, as is likely to happen to any Yemeni official who like Sayyaghi refuses to pay off the Imam's friends, the ex-Governor had developed enemies ready and willing to knife him in the back.

Sayyaghi's removal has not added to the Imam's prestige in southern Yemen and His Majesty, no matter how much he distrusts Sayyaghi, will probably treat him with caution: i.e., Sayyaghi is not likely to lose his

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head.

An additional note of interest is that Sayyaghi's brother, Qadhi Abd al-Rahman al-Sayyaghi, is known as one of the Imam's trusted agents in Sana'a.


William A. Stoltzfus, Jr.

cc: Cairo, Aden

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In Hodeida early December I learned Imam's doctors had discovered apparently for first time that Imam suffering from diabetic condition. Doctors' concern was less that disease serious than that Imam would not follow medical advise re necessary diet in such cases. Imam, recalling fact that late Governor of Hodeida, Muhammad Ahmad PASHA, died of same disease, nevertheless sufficiently alarmed to order adviser Muhammad al-WAZIR to fly to Geneva to consult a certain Dr. Niehans. One of Niehans' assistants reportedly arriving shortly to examine Imam.

Imam fell ill about December 8 but apparently feeling better now. Italian doctor in frequent attendance on Imam reports Imam's condition bank to normal.

Stoltzfus

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 P AmConsulate ADEM
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Date Sent: December 28, 1960
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G-68
 G-73

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In Hodeida for several days prior Ambassador's arrival December 10 to visit Yemen, Charge learned from reliable sources of major dispute in progress within royal family apparently involving future leadership of Yemen. Main line-up was Crown Prince vs. group of young princes including Hassan ibn 'Ali (Mayor of Sana'a), Yahya ibn Hussain (member of Yemeni Legation in Bonn), and Muhammad ibn Hussain. With firebrand Yahya ibn Hussain in forefront princes reportedly went before Imam to assert that Crown Prince incapable of future leadership of Yemen, that his rule would spell end of royal family and upper class sayyids and that he prepared sell country to Egypt. Princes gave Badr vote of "no confidence" and were said also to have complained that Imam was allowing Crown Prince to prevent them from assuming positions of responsibility in Yemeni Government. Princes also reported to favor return to Yemen of Saif al-Islam al-Hassan (now in New York), preferably to serve after demise of Imam Ahmad as Prime Minister under Badr.

On December 9, quarrel broke out between Prince Hassan ibn 'Ali and Yahya ibn Hussain. Latter, possibly intoxicated, struck at Hassan with dagger, fortunately slashing only his clothes. At this point other princes who were present joined in fray and shot was fired before royal guards burst onto scene to end fight. Imam, incensed at his nephew's behavior, ordered Hassan, Yahya and brother Muhammad ibn Hussain chained and sent to prison in Hajja. Imam later relented however and whole affair appeared to have died down by evening of December 10.

Sources, two of whom close to Imam, expressed deep dismay over family dispute. According to them, dispute indicative of long-standing split within family, chiefly between Crown Prince and remainder of princes who have no confidence Badr able or willing preserve them or independence of Yemen in future and who favor return of Saif al-Islam al-Hassan to Yemen. Sources commented Imam committed to Crown Prince but "remember that Saif al-Islam al-Hassan has never officially recognized Badr as Crown Prince." General family settlement to mutual satisfaction of all therefore impossible. Instead of biding time and waiting for more propitious moment, sources added, princes had only

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caused wider split and further loss mutual confidence within family which boded no good for them in future. Sources predicted Imam would undertake to smooth over ruffled feelings now but, with Badr, would work subtly to undermine in time those in family known to oppose Badr actively.

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TO: Department of State

NO: G-79

Rptd Info: AmEmbassy CAIRO G-77

Ref: Legation's Despatch 58, December 27, 1960

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Legation wishes invite Department's particular attention to recommendation contained in referenced despatch that Crown Prince BADR be officially invited to United States. In our opinion early visit to US by Crown Prince would be most effective single step USG could now take to strengthen US position in Yemen. Department's favorable consideration is solicited.

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